

## Romeo and Juliet – Quotes from Act 3 Scene 1

*“ I pray thee, good Mercutio,  
let's retire.  
The day is hot, the Capels are  
abroad.”*

Benvolio, urging Mercutio to go inside as it is a hot day and the Capulets are out and about. Benvolio is worried that there may be a fight if he and Mercutio meet the Capulets.



Mercutio is appalled at what he sees as Romeo's cowardly retreat in the face of Tybalt's challenge. Mercutio does not know that Romeo is married to a Capulet now and is, therefore, unwilling to fight a member of his wife's family!

*“O calm, dishonourable, vile  
submission!”*

*"A plague on both your houses!"*

Mercutio, as he dies, curses the Montagues and the Capulets. Their feud has led to his death.



Romeo says he is a victim of unlucky chance. Of course, this is not quite true! He chose to fight Tybalt rather than letting the Prince punish him for killing Mercutio.

*"O, I am fortune's fool!"*

